

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /068 W
-----121816Z 019463 /43

R 121435Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2986
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 0485

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, UR, CA, GW
SUBJECT: AIR CANADA TO SUSPEND SERVICE TO USSR

1. ULRICH ROSENGARTEN, FRG EMBASSY COUNSELOR (PROTECT, TOLD EMBOFF JANUARY 12 THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE CANADIAN EMBASSY THAT AS OF FEBRUARY 1, AIR CANADA WILL SUSPEND ITS ONE FLIGHT PER WEEK BETWEEN MONTREAL-MOSCOW. SERVICE TO PRAGUE WILL ALSO BE CURTAILED. THE REASON GIVEN BY THE CANADIANS IS THAT THE ROUTES ARE NOT PROFITABLE. THERE HAVE NOT BEEN PROBLEMS WITH AEROFLOT SELLING CUT-RATE TICKETS. AEROFLOT WILL CONTINUE TO FLY ITS WINTER SCHEDULE OF ONE FLIGHT PER WEEK.

2. ROSENGARTEN ALSO SAID THAT FRG-USSR CIVIL AIR TALKS WILL BE HELD IN LATE JANUARY. ONE SUBJECT WILL BE THE TERMS OF THE POOL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN AEROFLOT-LUFTHANSA. FINAL AGREEMENT ALSO IS EXPECTED ON EXPANSION OF SERVICE FOR 1977. LUFTHANSA WILL INCREASE ITS PRESENT 5 PER WEEK FRANKFURT-MOSCOW SERVICE TO A DAILY SCHEDULE AND AEROFLOT WILL BE GIVEN A ONE PER WEEK MOSCOW-MUNICH ROUTE BEGINNING IN APRIL AS WELL AS TWO ADDITIONAL MOSCOW-FRANKFURT FREQUENCIES.
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AEROFLOT SERVICE TO DUSSELDORF BEGINNING NEXT YEAR IS ALSO TO BE DISCUSSED.

3. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO PAN AM REP DRAHORAD, AIR CANADA AND AEROFLOT NOW HAVE A REVENUE POOLING ARRANGEMENT. FOR SOME TIME, THE AIR CANADA FLIGHT HAS BEEN CARRYING VERY FEW PASSENGERS FOR REASONS QUITE SIMILAR TO THOSE AFFECTING PAN AM

OPERATIONS HERE. WE HAVE HEARD SPECULATION IN THE PAST THAT
AEROFLOT'S OBJECTIVE WAS TO FORCE AIR CANADA TO REDUCE
OPERATIONS HERE AND THEN SEEK A RENEGOTIATION OF THEIR 50-50
REVENUE POOLING ARRANGEMENT.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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